

Annual Report of the  
West Virginia Transportation  
Coordinating Council

November 30, 2007

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# Report

On March 16, 2004, former Governor Bob Wise issued Executive Order No 5-04 creating the West Virginia Transportation Coordinating Council. The Governor charged the Council with studying issues pertaining to the effective and efficient use of transportation resources including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) coordination of transportation services;
- (b) elimination of waste and overlap caused by duplicated agency efforts;  
and
- (c) elimination of service gaps to enhance citizen access to all available transportation and resources.”

Governor Wise appointed members to the Council in July, 2004. On July 5, 2006, Governor Joe Manchin appointed two additional members to the Council, Ms. Ruth Wagner and Mr. Bill Davis representing senior citizens to serve at the will and pleasure of the Governor. On July 18, 2007, Governor Manchin appointed another member, Mr. John R. Davidson, Jr. to serve at the will and pleasure of the Governor representing the general public.

During calendar year 2007, the Council held four quarterly meetings and met on the first Thursday of each quarter.

In September, 2005, the Federal Transit Administration announced a second round of United We Ride funding. The \$75,000 grant request which requires no matching funds was submitted on November 28, 2005. These grants can be used for implementing one or more of the components identified within each State’s action plan relating to the United We Ride Framework for Action. This plan was completed in late 2005.

The second grant was awarded in May, 2006 but no funds were released until July, 2006. The grant submitted by West Virginia called for the Council to identify a region of the state to develop a pilot program for a local coordination effort and to address issues which are barriers to a coordinated transportation system. The Council issued an Expression of Interest and a call for proposals for pilot coordination projects to include a local mobility manager in August, 2006 with proposals accepted through the end of September, 2006. A grant evaluation committee met in early October, 2006 and selected the Eastern Panhandle Transit Authority’s (EPTA) proposal. This project started in October, 2006 and was to be completed in October, 2007. Funds were remaining in the project at that time, and EPTA was granted a time extension and authority to spend the remaining grant funds on mobility manager activities.

Some of the accomplishments of the EPTA mobility manager project are:

- The coordination of EPTA with the area senior programs which resulted in the picking up of seniors at various housing complexes and taking them to the senior center. This provided for better utilization of the EPTA and the senior citizen's transportation services.
- The provision of transportation for TANF clients by working through the local DHHR office.
- The modification of an existing EPTA route which allows children attending private school in Berkeley County to travel from Jefferson County.
- By working with the Berkeley County Parks and Recreation Director, EPTA's name and number was included in their yearly book as a transit provider for youth programs. EPTA also attended college and career fairs to explain the services that they provided.
- EPTA contacted local business and were able to have information posted and schedules passed out to employees enabling them to have an alternate way to work.
- EPTA has explored the possibility of providing non-emergency medical trips (NEMT) in Berkeley and Jefferson counties. EPTA estimates that they might be able to save the Bureau of Medical Services \$245,000 in expenses if EPTA coordinated the NEMT program in these two counties.

An ongoing dialogue with state agencies, organizations and consumers continues regarding coordination opportunities and the need for additional transportation services.

**Attachment A**  
**Executive Order No. 5-04**  
**See WV State Code §29-1-96 and §5-1-20**

**Attachment B**  
**WV Transportation**  
**Coordinating Council Members**  
**- Current**

**MEMBERS**  
**WV Transportation Coordinating Council**  
As appointed by Governor Bob Wise, July 15, 2004  
Executive Order No. 5-04

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